

MEETING SUMMARY

TO: Modeling Task Force Members
FROM: Mike Ainsworth
SUBJECT: Modeling Task Force Meeting Summary

MODELING TASK FORCE MEETING

January 26, 2005 - Wednesday
9:30 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Southern California
Association of Governments
818 W. 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
Room – Riverside A

Attendees

Luke Cheng	Ron Taira
Mike Ainsworth	Deng Bang Lee
Kathy Hsiao	Dale Iwai
Rena Lum	Ed Humenik
R. Mike Labudzki	Steve Smith
Keith Killough	Timor Rafiq
Marlie Whiteman	Stacey Kurz
Chaushie Chu	Maren Outwater
Guoxiong Huang	Paul Burke
Srini Bhat	Henning Eichler
Gerald Bare	Robert Fejeron
Tony Van Haagen	Mike Gainor
Ramakrishna Tadi	Viggen Davidian

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

1.0 Call to Order

2.0 Public Comment Period – No Comments

3.0 Consent Calendar - Review and Approve Previous Meeting Summary –Approved

4.0 Action Items:

The Chair of the Modeling Task Force rotates annually between the modeling leads of the County Transportation Commissions and Caltrans. The Committee was asked to reaffirm the appointment of Chaushie Chu (MTA) as the new Modeling Task Force Chair for Year 2005. The Modeling Task Force extended its appreciation to Steve Smith of SANBAG for his service as Chair over the past year.

5.0 Information Items:

5.1 Fy 05-06 Regional Modeling Program:

SCAG – Deng Bang Lee provided an overview of SCAG Modeling Section’s proposed work program for FY 05-06. Next year’s priorities include: 1) provide modeling support for the RTP-07 planning effort, 2) Year 2003 Model Validation, 3) implement a new modeling software, 4) conduct an independent model review, 5) Heavy-Duty Truck Model Improvement Project, 6) Air Passenger Model, 7) subregional model improvements, and 8) development of a model network database management system.

MTA - Chaushie Chu provided an overview of MTA’s modeling priorities. MTA will continue improving their passenger and freight models. Model improvements include: 1) evaluating and implementing the destination choice model, 2) expanding the number of travel modes in mode choice, 3) capacity constrained transit assignment, and 4) continuing work on the short and long term freight modeling programs.

OCTA – Ron Taira described OCTA’s modeling priorities for next year including: 1) Transcad conversion, 2) expanding the modeling area, 3) new TAZ’s, 4) testing traffic simulation softwares, and 5) including feedback in OCTA’s modeling framework.

Inland Area – Steve Smith described the Rivsant Model priorities. The major concern is that the existing model is becoming old and needs to be upgraded to SCAG’s new modeling methodology. SANBAG, WRCOG and SCAG are working together to improve the Rivsant model methodology and develop model inputs.

5.2 Regional Model Improvement Program - Maren Outwater, Cambridge Systematics, provided the status of the Regional Model Improvement Program. Cambridge has completed the trip generation model, the vehicle availability model, and the external trip model. CSI is working with Caliper to develop upgraded networks and improved skims. The Project is scheduled for completion in apx. two months.

5.3 SCAG Model Software Conversion – Mike Ainsworth provided an overview of SCAG’s software conversion process. SCAG currently uses TRANPLAN Model software to apply the

Regional Transportation Model. SCAG's existing Model also uses EMME2, which is limited to the assignment of transit trips. Since the end of UAG, it has become apparent that SCAG needs to transition to a new modeling software. SCAG's major concerns with the current Tranplan Software are the low level of software support and the desire to use the modeling capabilities of a modern software package. SCAG staff are working with the Commissions to develop a software evaluation process. The softwares to be considered include Cube, Transcad, EMME2, and Visum.

- 5.4 Regional Cordon Survey – Robert Fejeran of Consilium presented the methodology and results of the Regional Cordon Survey. Travel surveys were conducted at 17 locations at the perimeter of the modeling area. The surveys were conducted by photographing license plates of vehicles crossing the cordons, matching the plates against the DMV file to obtain addresses, and sending out survey forms. Mr Fejeran presented the response rate and overall statistics for trip type, trip frequency, vehicle occupancy, household size, income, and vehicle ownership.
- 5.5 MTA Freight Modeling Project - Luke Cheng presented the status of the MTA Freight Modeling effort. The Consultant team includes Cambridge Systematics, Tioga Group, and Citilabs. The purpose of this effort is to calibrate and validate the previously developed model framework. In addition, the Consultant is developing a traffic simulation methodology using the Dynasim Model. As part of this effort, the Consultant will conduct travel surveys at 6 inter-modal yards. A Project TAC will meet today at MTA to discuss progress.
- 5.6 Mid-Valley Parkway Study – Erik Ruehr provided an overview of the Mid-Valley Parkway Study. The purpose of the study is to evaluate a new East –West corridor within Western Riverside County. The alternatives model runs will be performed using a refined version of the Regional Model. The following refinements were made to the Regional Model: 1) refined zone system, 2) updated SED, 3) refined highway network, and 4) refined transit networks. Meyers, Mohaddes is currently performing the various roadway alternative model runs and analyzing the results.
- 5.7 I-15 Comprehensive Corridor Study – Maron Outwater provided an overview of the I-15 Comprehensive Corridor Study. The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), San Bernardino Associated Governments (SANBAG), and the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) Districts 8 and 7 are jointly sponsoring a study to comprehensively evaluate mobility issues within the I-15 Corridor. Funding allocated to the I-15 Comprehensive Study is to accomplish the following specific goals: 1) right-of-way preservation, 2) determine feasibility of dedicated truck lanes, 3) comprehensively evaluate multi-modal and inter-modal issues. The model runs will be performed using SCAG's Regional Model. Various roadway alternatives will be run and evaluated.
- 5.8 Inter-Regional Rail Project - Mike Ainsworth provided a brief update on the Inter-Regional Rail project. The Consultant team is currently working on developing the model inputs for the San Diego area, which will be appended onto the SCAG Model. The model calibration/validation work will begin in April and the project will be completed by June 30, 2005.

6.0 Open Discussion and Other Business – None

7.0 Schedule and Agenda for Next Meeting – The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2005

8.0 Adjournment